

IDAHO NEWS RELEASE



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IDAHO CATTLE NUMBERS UP 1 PERCENT

Idaho cattle and calf inventory totaled 2.00 million head as of January 1, 2003, according to the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service. This was up 1 percent from the 1.99 million head in the State on January 1, 2002. There were 490,000 beef cows, down 1 percent, and 390,000 milk cows, up 3 percent, on hand at the beginning of the year. The number of beef replacement heifers, at 90,000, was up 6 percent and heifers for milk cow replacement at 190,000, was up 9 percent. Statewide, there were 360,000 steers over 500 pounds, 35,000 bulls over 500 pounds and 250,000 calves under 500 pounds on January 1. The 2002 calf crop totaled 860,000 head, the same as the calf crop of 2001.

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2003, totaled 96.1 million head, 1 percent below the 96.7 million on January 1, 2002 and 1 percent below the 97.3 million two years ago.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.1 million, were down slightly from the 42.2 million on January 1, 2002 and down 1 percent from the 42.6 million two years ago. Beef cows, at 32.95 million, were down 1 percent from both January 1, 2002 and January 1, 2001. Milk cows, at 9.15 million, were up slightly from January 1, 2002 but down slightly from two years ago. All heifers, 500 pounds and over, at 19.6 million, were down slightly. Beef replacement heifers, at 5.61 million head, were up 1 percent and milk replacement heifers, at 4.10 million head were up 1 percent. Steers weighing over 500 pounds totaled 16.6 million, down 1 percent from a year ago. The 2002 calf crop estimated at 38.2 million head, was down slightly from 2001 and down 1 percent from 2000. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.9 million, down 1 percent from 2001 and down 2 percent from 2000.

For More Information Call: (208) 334-1507.